



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**HEADQUARTERS, V CORPS (PROVISIONAL)**  
**UNIT 29355**  
**APO AE 09014**

AETV-R-CG

5 March 2004

**MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION**

**SUBJECT: Safety Message #1: Alcohol and Driving**

1. V Corps Soldiers and Civilians returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom have much to be proud of and reason to celebrate. They have done an outstanding job in an extremely harsh environment and look forward to some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

2. Alcohol consumption by vehicle motorists remains the number one contributing factor in fatal accidents in V Corps. We must not permit this hazard to destroy the life of our Soldiers or family members. One Soldier has already fallen victim to this tragic circumstance after surviving for a year in combat operations. This is not only a needless loss of life but is also totally preventable.

3. Commanders will ensure the following procedures are in place and Soldiers are briefed accordingly.

a. Due to the extended period of alcohol abstinence, even a single drink can adversely affect a redeploying Soldier's driving and duty performance. Therefore, for the first 45 days after redeployment, and particularly during reintegration, I expect commanders and NCOs to carefully monitor their Soldiers for signs of alcohol abuse. I expect leaders to give frequent safety briefings, to stress the importance of designated drivers, and to regularly visit the barracks to ensure our Soldiers who choose to drink alcohol are drinking responsibly. I expect all Soldiers to pick a designated driver when going off-post. Don't allow a single drink to ruin a career, or worse, a life.

b. Soldiers will arrange return transportation prior to any outings in which they plan to consume alcohol. This may be in the form of designated drivers, pre-established taxi pick up times, and/or bus/train/trolley tickets. In the event of unplanned alcohol consumption, Soldiers will have the phone number of someone to call for assistance 24/7 in their possession. Units should take full advantage of the "Ride Home Program." Ride home taxi cards have text in both English and German that explains to the taxi driver that the Soldier presenting it needs assistance getting to post. The card states that if the Soldier does not have sufficient funds the driver should bring the card and Soldier to a designated person on post that will pay the fare for the Soldier.

AETV-R-CG

SUBJECT: Safety Message #1: Alcohol and Driving

Fares paid using this method are obtained from an informal fund maintained with money reimbursed by Soldiers who use the card.

c. Commanders will promote and use "Operation Guardian Angel". This initiative encourages families and friends to adopt a returning Soldier and serve as that Soldier's "safety net." Individuals who choose to act as "Guardian Angels" provide safety oversight to help ensure Soldiers safely return to duty following redeployment Block Leave or Rest and Recuperation (R&R). A Guardian Angel Safety Award Program will also be established to recognize exemplary efforts to protect our returning Soldiers.

4. Command and individual accountability are required to prevent unnecessary injury or loss of life. V Corps Safety Office stands ready to assist with educational material, training programs, and safety support. Use the tools and programs available and ensure the redeployment and reintegration process is a success. Our Army at war – be safe – make it home!

5. VICTORY CORPS!



DANIEL J. KEEFE  
Brigadier General, USA  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

B  
C